

Application No: 09/868,375
Attorney's Docket No: PHN-17.707

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-34 (canceled).

35. (new) A graphical user interface for use with a data processing device, comprising:
 a horizontally disposed touch screen for interaction with a user;
 a plurality of user responsive display elements for displaying on the screen, the elements comprising:
 a flow zone comprising a list of flowing links displayed around a periphery of the screen, wherein the user strokes the touch screen to induce change in the movement of the flowing links; and
 a presentation zone for presenting information selected from the flowing links.
36. (new) The interface of claim 35, wherein the display elements further comprise at least one flow control element, a respective flow control element being disposed adjacent to each flowing link.
37. (new) The interface of claim 35, further comprising a plurality of control zones disposed together for effecting control of other display elements.
38. (new) The interface of claim 37, wherein the control zones comprise
 an agent zone for selecting filtering agents for filtering contents of the flow zone;
 a mode zone for altering a format of other zones; and
 an annotation zone for annotating information in the presentation zone.
39. (new) The interface of claim 35 further comprising at least one token zone for displaying personal links, wherein the personal links may be dragged to other zones to affect what is displayed in the other zones.
40. (new) The interface of claim 39, wherein the token zone is in the form of a carousel.
41. (new) A table comprising the user interface of claim 35 and adapted for a respective user to sit adjacent to each personal selection zone.
42. (new) An information processing device for exploring information by a user, comprising:
 a display screen to display a plurality of flowing links within a flow zone, each of the flowing links being linked to respective information units for display in a presentation zone of the display screen; and
 an input device responsive to control by the user to directly alter the flow of the links and to select one of the flowing links.

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43. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, wherein the flowing links move at a default flow speed and a default flow direction within the flow zone, and the input device is controlled by the user to selectably change the flow speed or flow direction.
44. (new) An information processing device according to claim 43, wherein the input device is a user operable point-and-select device for selecting a location within the flow zone, and flow of the flowing links within the flow zone is stoppable in response to the user statically selecting a location within the flow zone with the user operable point-and-select device.
45. (new) An information processing device according to claim 43, wherein the flow speed changes in response to the user selecting a location of the display screen with the input device and dragging the selected location in the flow direction.
46. (new) An information processing device according to claim 43, wherein the flow direction is reversed in response to the user selecting a location and dragging the selected location against the flow direction.
47. (new) An information processing device according to claim 43, wherein the flow zone is arranged to alternately display the links and flow control areas, and the flow is controlled by selecting the flow control areas with the input device.
48. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, wherein the start of presentation of the content from the related information unit responds to the user dragging the selected link to the presentation zone.
49. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, further comprising:
a filtering unit including a plurality of user selectable filters for controlling the flow zone to display links to information units which meet a requirement imposed by a selected filter.
50. (new) An information processing device according to claim 49, wherein the filtering unit adapts the selected filter to display links to information units similar to the related information unit.
51. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, further comprising:
a user-link unit to maintain a plurality of preferred user-links and display the user-links in a further zone.
52. (new) An information processing device according to claim 51, further comprising:
a detector for communicating with a user supplied data carrier in response to control by the user-link unit for sorting and/or retrieving the user-links.

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53. (new) An information processing device according to claim 52, wherein the display screen is a table top touch screen and the user supplied data carrier is a token that interacts with the detector through placement on the table top touch screen
54. (new) An information processing device according to claim 51, wherein the frequency of display of an information unit in the flow zone is determined by its age and/or popularity.
55. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, further comprising:
a table for supporting the display screen.
56. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, wherein the respective information units for display on the display screen correspond to a location of the information processing device.
57. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, wherein the display screen and the input device are embodied as part of a portable device.
58. (new) An information processing device according to claim 57, wherein the portable device is a hand-held device.
59. (new) An information processing device according to claim 42, wherein
the display screen and the input device cooperate to form a graphical user interface,
the display screen is a touch screen adapted for interaction with a user, and
the plurality of flowing links within the flow zone are user responsive display elements displayed around a periphery of the screen, wherein the user strokes the touch screen to induce change in the movement of the flowing links.
60. (new) A method of accessing internet information content, comprising:
displaying a plurality of flowing links within a flow zone on a display screen of an information processing device, each of the flowing links being linked to respective information units for display in a presentation zone of the display screen;
controlling an input device of the information processing device to directly alter the flow of the links; and
selecting one of the flowing links with the input device to display a linked information unit.
61. (new) A computer program product embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising:
computer readable program code means for displaying a plurality of flowing links within a flow zone on a display screen of an information processing device, each of the flowing links being linked to respective information units for display in a presentation zone of the display screen;

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computer readable program code means for responding to an input device of the information processing device to directly alter the flow of the links; and
computer readable program code means for responding to the input device to select one of the flowing links to display a linked information unit.